

Appl. No.: 10/085,010
Amdt. dated 12/07/2005
Reply to Office action of September 12, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 12-22 are currently pending in the present application. In the Office Action dated September 12, 2005, Claims 12, 13, 15-18, 20, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,911,121 to Andrews ("Andrews"). Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Andrews. Claims 14 and 21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would otherwise be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response to the Office Action, Applicant has amended independent Claim 12. As explained below, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention of amended independent Claim 12, independent Claims 15 and 22, and by dependency Claims 13, 14, and 16-21, are patentably distinct from the Andrews patent. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims of the present application.

The Andrews reference describes a mobile telephone 10 where there are a variety of telephone models, each model possessing different features or functions. To simplify the manufacture of the variety of different models, the telephone housing comprises a front cover 44 and a back cover 42, wherein the back cover 42 of the telephone 10 has a common printed circuit board 46 able to accommodate the circuitry and programming for all of the different models of the telephone 10. The printed circuit board 46 contains a program memory 14 which includes a plurality of program configurations which correspond to each of the available telephone models. Each telephone model has a corresponding front cover 44 of the telephone housing. The front cover contains a program selector 60 capable of being used to identify which telephone model the front cover corresponds to. The detection circuit 50, located on the printed circuit board 46, senses the model via the program selector 60 and generates a configuration signal that tells the microprocessor 12 which of the available program configurations stored in the program memory 14 to use.

Andrews does not teach or suggest an exchangeable cover for a wireless terminal wherein the cover comprises identification means and electrical circuitry for supporting a user interface of the wireless terminal wherein the electrical circuitry of the user exchangeable cover part is operated in dependence upon the identification of the user exchangeable cover part, as recited by the independent claims of the present application. The Office Action relates the "electrical

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circuitry" of the present claims to the program selector 60 of the Andrews reference. Program selector 60 is merely a unique combination of jumper pins 64 used to identify the model type of the interchangeable front cover 44. *See* Andrews, col. 3, lines 42-52. The Andrews patent specifically states that the printed circuit board 46, located on the main body portion of the mobile telephone 10, contains all of the circuitry needed for each of the various models. *See* Andrews, col. 3, lines 27-29. Therefore, while the program selector 60 of Andrews may be a means of identifying an interchangeable front cover of a mobile telephone, the program selector 60 is not electrical circuitry for supporting the user interface of the wireless terminal, as recited by the claims of the present application. As such, Andrews does not teach or suggest, a wireless terminal comprising a user exchangeable cover part having electrical circuitry for supporting the user interface of the wireless terminal, as recited by the claims of the present application.

Even if program selector 60 could be considered electrical circuitry for supporting the user interface of the wireless terminal, the Andrews telephone only senses the pins in the program selector 60 in order to identify the exchangeable cover part. Once the phone identifies the model of the phone that corresponds to the interchangeable front cover, the telephone has no other use for program selector 60. The Andrews telephone does not operate the program selector 60 in dependence upon the identification of the exchangeable cover part. As such, Andrews does not teach or suggest, operating the electrical circuitry of the user exchangeable cover part in dependence upon the identification of the user exchangeable cover part, as recited by the claims of the present application.

In addition to the above distinctions, Andrews does not teach or suggest a "user exchangeable cover part" for a wireless terminal, as recited by the claims of the present application. The Andrews patent describes a removable front cover that is removable or exchangeable by the manufacturer or perhaps a retailer, and specifically describes the manufacturing and inventory benefits of the Andrews invention. *See* Andrews, col. 2, lines 11-18; col. 3, lines 24-25; col. 7, lines 35-37. The reference does not teach or suggest designing a front cover or any other exchangeable cover part to be exchangeable by a user, as recited by the claims of the present application. For all of the above reasons, independent Claims 12, 15, and

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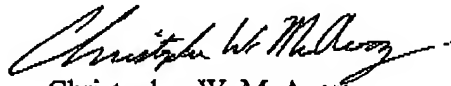
22, as well as the claims that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct over Andrews and, therefore, should be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued in due course. The Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

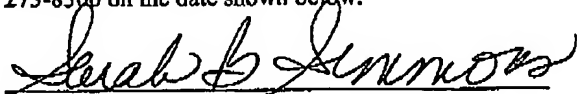

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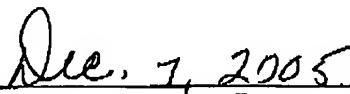
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Sarah B. Simmons



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CLT01/4764952v1